

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) :** (a) and (b) Periodicity of issue of Public Distribution System items to consumers from Fair Price Shops is prescribed by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and is either weekly, fortnightly or monthly, which would take into account, amongst other things, the purchasing power of the consumers in the State/Union Territory.

**FURNISHING OF PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR RATION CARDS**

**288. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that insistence on furnishing of permanent address by the claimants for ration cards deprives the most vulnerable sections of the society the access to the public distribution system; and

(b) the steps the Government intend to take to ensure that the weakest of the, weak including the migratory labour and pavement dwellers are not deprived of this facility meant primarily for them ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) :** (a) and (b) Implementation of the Public Distribution System, including setting out the criteria for eligibility for ration cards, are decided by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Central Government has, however, advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to cover the uncovered population and to supply ration cards to each family both in rural and urban areas.  
(Translation)

**POPULATION BELOW POVERTY LINE IN BIHAR**

**289. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Will the MINISTER

**OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION** be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population living below poverty-line in Bihar: as per the latest survey; and

(b) the efforts made or proposed to be made by the Government to bring them above the poverty-line ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) :** (a) Based on the provisional results of 43rd Round of National Sample Survey on household consumer expenditure, the percentage of population below poverty line in Bihar is estimated at 40.8 per cent in 1987-88.

(b) Apart from developmental efforts at creation of income and employment through growth in agriculture, industry and services, etc., special programmes for alleviation of poverty are also being implemented. These include programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana as well as some special programmes for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

[English]

**ROLLING BACK PRICES OF EDIBLE OILS ETC.**

**290 SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the average retail prices of Diesel, Kerosene, Salt and Edible Oils in July, 1990;

(b) the average retail prices of same articles as obtaining in June, 1991.

(c) the steps being taken to roll back prices of aforesaid articles to levels obtaining in July, 1990; and

(d) whether the Government propose to complete the task of rolling back prices by October, 1991 ?